Appl. No. 10/535,736

Amendment dated April 12, 2010

Reply to Office action of December 11, 2009

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the

application:

**Listing of Claims:** 

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for immobilizing biomolecules, which

method comprises

contacting a solution containing a biomolecule or biomolecules provided with

at least one tag with an immobilization substrate which has (i) binding sites for the

biomolecule tag or tags, and (ii) activated reactive groups which form covalent bonds

with the non-tag part of the biomolecule or biomolecules; and

immobilizing the biomolecule or biomolecules on the immobilization substrate

through both (1) binding between the tag or tags and tag-binding sites of the

immobilization substrate, and (2) forming covalent bonds between the reactive groups

and the non-tag part of the biomolecule or biomolecules.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, comprising the

steps of:

a first step wherein the reactive groups of the immobilization substrate which

are capable of forming a covalent bond with the biomolecule or biomolecules to be

immobilized are activated;

Page 2 of 10

a second step wherein a solution containing the biomolecule or biomolecules

to be immobilized is reacted with the immobilization substrate following the first step,

and

wherein, in the second step, the biomolecule or biomolecules are immobilized on the

immobilization substrate through interaction between the tag or tags and tag-binding

sites of the immobilization substrate and covalent bonds formed between the reactive

groups and the non-tag part of the biomolecule or biomolecules.

Claim 3 (original): The method according to claim 2, wherein the reactive groups are

carboxyl groups, and in the second step, an amine coupling is formed between the

carboxyl groups and an amino group on the biomolecule to be immobilized.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The method according to claim 2, wherein the tag is a

histidine tag, and in the second step, an interaction is effected between the histidine

tag and the immobilization substrate.

Claim 5 (original): The method according to claim 4, wherein, in the second step, an

interaction is effected between the histidine tag and the immobilization substrate

through a complex.

Page 3 of 10

Claim 6 (original): The method according to claim 5, wherein, in the second step, an

interaction is effected between the histidine tag and the immobilization substrate

through a metal ion chelate.

Claim 7 (original): The method according to claim 6, wherein, in the second step, an

interaction is effected between the histidine tag and the immobilization substrate

through Ni2+ nitrilotriacetic acid (Ni-NTA).

Claim 8 (original): The method according to claim 6, wherein, in the second step, an

interaction is effected between the histidine tag and the immobilization substrate

through Ni2+ iminodiacetic acid (Ni-IDA).

Claim 9 (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the tag-

binding site of the immobilization substrate is an antibody to the tag; further wherein

the covalent binding is to a non-tag part of the biomolecules.

Claim 10 (original): The method according to claim 9, wherein the tag is a histidine

tag, the antibody is an anti-histidine antibody and, in the second step, an intereaction

is effected between the histidine tag and the immobilization substrate through an anti-

histidine antibody.

Page 4 of 10

Claim 11 (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the tag is

an inherent part of a native biomolecule.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the

biomolecule is a protein.

Claim 13 (previously presented); A method for determining biomolecule-low

molecular weight compound affinity and/or kinetics comprising:

a step for reacting a sample containing a low molecular weight compound or

compounds to be determined with an immobilization substrate to which a biomolecule

or biomolecules have been immobilized using the method for immobilizing

biomolecules as defined in claim 1, and

a step for determining the affinity and/or kinetics of the low molecular weight

compound or compounds contained in the sample for the biomolecule or

biomolecules immobilized on the immobilization substrate.

Claim 14 (original): The method according to claim 13, wherein the affinity and/or

kinetics of a biomolecule and a low molecular weight compound is determined using

the principle of surface plasmon resonance (SPR) in the step for determining affinity

and/or kinetics.

Page 5 of 10

Appl. No. 10/535,736

Amendment dated April 12, 2010

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Claim 15 (previously presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein the

biomolecule is a protein.

Claims 16-17 (cancelled)

Claim 18 (previously presented): An immobilization substrate comprising at least one

immobilized biomolecule, wherein the biomolecule or biomolecules have been

immobilized by the method defined in claim 1.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The immobilization substrate of claim 18, which

comprises:

a substrate, and

polysaccharide chains arranged on the substrate, into which are introduced

reactive groups capable of forming covalent bonds with the non-tag part of a

biomolecule or biomolecules to be immobilized thereon,

wherein the biomolecule or biomolecules interact with the polysaccharide chain

through a chelate and form covalent bonds with the reactive groups.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The immobilization substrate of claim 18, wherein

the biomolecule is a protein.

Page 6 of 10

Appl. No. 10/535,736 Amendment dated April 12, 2010 Reply to Office action of December 11, 2009

Claim 21 (previously presented): The method according to claim 12, wherein the protein is a recombinant protein produced with a tag.